

Clouds

Clouds come in all shapes and sizes. Some look like they are so close you could touch them. Others float way up high. Clouds give us clues about the weather. Clouds help the people, animals, and plants living on the earth by bringing us water in the form of rain, snow, and hail.

Cirrus (SEER-us) clouds are the thin, feathery clouds highest in the sky. It's so cold that high up that the clouds are made of ice crystals.



Cumulus (KYOO-myoo-lus) clouds look like puffy white pillows. Sometimes they race across the sky, pushed by a powerful wind.





Nimbus (NIM-bus) clouds are the dark, flat-bottomed clouds that tell you a storm is coming.

Stratus (STRAT-us) clouds hang low in the sky. They cover the sky like a gray blanket. Usually they bring rain or snow.

